<u>Amendments to the Claims:</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

<u>Listing of Claims</u>:

Claim 1 (canceled)

2. (currently amended) An energy service business system comprising

a database which stores past data about an energy consumption of a production facility and/or a utility facility utilizing cold or warm heat energy before taking energy-saving measures by installing energy-saving equipment;

measuring means which measures present data of the energy consumption of the production and/or utility facility after taking the energy-saving measures; and

calculating means which calculates energy curtailment quantities of the production and/or utility facility before and after taking the energy-saving measures by installing the energy-saving equipment ;

wherein said past data in said database are stored in a form correlated with data of temperature and humidity of atmosphere as a variable characteristic of the energy consumption of the production and/or utility facility before taking the energy-saving measures;

wherein said measuring means measures said present data of <u>the energy consumption </u>the production and/or utility facility ~~which supplies the cold or warm heat energy ~~<u>after taking the energy-saving measures </u>together with ~~the ~~temperature and humidity data; and

wherein said calculating means retrieves said past data having temperature and humidity data within a set allowable range corresponding to said measured present data having ~~said ~~<u>the </u>temperature and humidity data for the production and/or utility facility, and calculates the energy curtailment quantities by comparing said

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retrieved past data having temperature and humidity data and said measured present data having the temperature and humidity data.

3.   (previously presented) An energy service business system according to claim 2, wherein said calculating means retrieves a plurality of said past data corresponding to a plurality of the temperature and humidity data approximating said measured temperature and humidity data; performing calculation for estimating past data corresponding to said measured temperature and humidity data from said plurality of past data; and calculates the energy curtailment quantities by comparing the thus calculated past estimated data and said measured present data.

Claim 4 (canceled)

5.   (previously presented) An energy service business system according to claim 2, wherein said calculating means calculates the amount of curtailment of the energy costs on the basis of said energy curtailment quantity, and issues a bill demanding payment of an amount obtained by multiplying said amount of curtailment by a predetermined ratio.

6.   (previously presented) An energy service business system according to claim 5, wherein said ratio is determined with reference to-the operating hours or the operating rate of the production and/or utility facility.

7.   (currently amended) An energy service business system according to claim 6, where:

if-when the total amount of the fixed costs such as depreciation and tax and tariffs for a single fiscal year for taking energy-saving measures and the variable costs such as maintenance cost of energy-saving equipment is Q, the annual

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amount of curtailment of energy costs is P, and α and β are positive coefficients (where $\alpha > \beta$), said energy service enterprise receives:

X1% of the curtailment amount of energy costs when $P \geq \alpha Q$;

X2% of the curtailment amount of energy costs when $\beta Q \leq P < \alpha Q$ (where, X1 < X2); and

a predetermined amount when $P < \beta Q$.

8.   (previously presented) An energy service business method comprising the steps of installing an energy-saving equipment for supplying cold or warm heat energy to a production and/or utility facility with an installation cost thereof paid by an energy service enterprise; measuring data of an energy consumption of the production and/or utility facility after installation of said energy-saving equipment in the production and/or utility facility; determining a difference of a resultant measured value from the energy consumption data of the production and/or utility facility before installation of said energy-saving equipment previously stored in a database; calculating an amount of curtailment of the energy costs on the basis of the thus determined difference; and allowing said energy service enterprise to collect said installation cost from said amount of curtailment; and further comprising the steps of storing said energy consumption data of the production and/or utility facility before installation energy-saving equipment in said database, together with temperature and humidity data of atmosphere as a variable characteristic of the energy consumption of the production and/or utility facility; and measuring the energy consumption data of the production and/or utility facility including the energy-saving equipment after installation of said energy-saving equipment, together with the temperature and humidity data; wherein the amount of curtailment of energy costs is calculated by comparing said measured energy consumption data having the temperature and humidity data with the stored energy consumption data before installation of said energy-saving equipment with which said temperature and humidity data agree within a set allowable range.

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Claim 9 (canceled)

10.   (previously presented) An energy service business method comprising the steps of applying energy-saving measures to a production facility and/or utility facility utilizing cold or warm heat energy by installing energy-saving equipment with the cost thereof paid by an energy service enterprise; measuring data of an energy consumption of the production and/or utility facility after taking the energy-saving measures; calculating an amount of curtailment of energy costs by comparing the thus measured value with the energy consumption data before taking the energy-saving measures previously stored in a database; and allowing said energy service enterprise to receive at least a part of said amount of curtailment; and further comprising the steps of storing said energy consumption data of the production and/or utility facility before taking energy-saving measures in said database, together with temperature and humidity data of atmosphere as a variable characteristic of the energy consumption of the production and/or utility facility; and measuring the energy consumption data after taking said energy-saving measures by installing the energy-saving equipment for supplying the cold or warm heat energy to the production and/or utility facility , together with said temperature and humidity data; wherein the amount of curtailment of energy costs is calculated by comparing said measured energy consumption data having the temperature and humidity data with the stored energy consumption data before taking said energy-saving measures with which the temperature and humidity data agree within a set allowable range.

Claim 11 (canceled)

12.   (previously presented) An energy service business method according to claim 10, wherein said amount received by the energy service enterprise is

determined with reference to the operating hours or the operating rate of the production and/or utility facility.

13. (previously presented) An energy service business method according to claim 10, wherein, when the quantity of energy curtailment is smaller than a predetermined reference value, said energy service enterprise performs maintenance or improvement without compensation of the equipment to which the energy-saving measures are applied so as to satisfy the reference value.

14. (currently amended) An energy service business method according to claim 10, wherein:

if when the total amount of the fixed costs such as depreciation and tax and tariffs for a single fiscal year for taking energy-saving measures and the variable costs such as maintenance cost of energy-saving equipment is Q, the annual amount of curtailment of energy costs is P, and α and β are positive coefficients (where $\alpha > \beta$), said energy service enterprise receives:

X1% of the curtailment amount of energy costs when $P \geq \alpha Q$;

X2% of the curtailment amount of energy costs when $\beta Q \leq P < \alpha Q$ (where, X1 < X2); and

a predetermined amount when $P < \beta Q$.

15. (original) An energy service business method according to claim 14, wherein said X2 is calculated by the following formula:

$X2 = X1 + (\alpha - P/Q)(100 - X1)/(\alpha - \beta)$.

Claim 16 (canceled)

17. (previously presented) An energy service business method comprising the steps of drafting energy-saving measures by an energy service enterprise or a

related organization thereof; assuring, under at least one set condition of a production facility and/or a utility facility utilizing cold or warm heat energy, a quantity of curtailment of energy consumption available when taking energy-saving measures in accordance with the thus drafted measures; measuring data of an energy consumption of the production and/or utility facility after taking the energy-saving measures by installing energy-saving equipment in the production and/or utility facility; calculating an amount of curtailment of energy costs by comparing the thus measured value with data of an energy consumption of the production and/or utility facility before taking the energy-saving measures previously stored in a database, and periodically confirming the assured quantity of curtailment; and further comprising the steps of storing said energy consumption data before taking the energy-saving measures in said database, together with temperature and humidity data of atmosphere as a variable characteristic of the energy consumption data of the production and/or utility facility; measuring the energy consumption data of the production and/or utility facility after installing of the energy saving equipment for supplying the cold or warm heat energy as said energy-saving measures, together with the temperature and humidity data; and comparing said measured energy consumption data of the production and/or utility facility having the temperature and humidity data with the stored energy consumption data before taking said energy-saving measures with which the temperature and humidity data agree within a set allowable range.

Claim 18 (canceled)

19.   (previously presented) An energy service business method according to claim 17, wherein said at least one set condition includes conditions determined as to variable factors having an effect on curtailment of the energy consumption such as the operating rate or operating hours of the production and/or utility facility.

20.   (previously presented) An energy service business method according to claim 19, wherein said at least one set condition has an allowable range.

21.   (previously presented) An energy service business method according to claim 17, wherein said energy service enterprise receives a compensation in an amount corresponding to the quantity of energy curtailment in excess of an assured value of at least one of a reward for assuring a quantity of energy curtailment and a cost to be appropriated for maintenance and improvement.

22.   (previously presented) An energy service business method according to claim 21, wherein the amount received by said energy service enterprise is determined with reference to the operating hours or the operating rate of the production and/or utility facility.

23.   (previously presented) An energy service business method according to claim 21, wherein, when the quantity of energy curtailment is under a predetermined reference value, said energy service enterprise performs at least one of maintenance and improvement of an equipment subjected to energy-saving measures without compensation so as to satisfy the reference value.

Claims 24 and 25 (canceled)

26. (previously presented) An energy service business system, comprising a database which stores past data about an energy consumption of a production facility and/or an utility facility utilizing cold or warm heat energy before taking energy-saving measures;

measuring means which measures a present data of the energy-consumption of said production and/or utility facility after taking energy-saving measures; and

calculating means which calculates an energy curtailment quantities of said production and/or utility facility before and after taking the energy-saving measures;

wherein said past data in said database are stored in a form correlated with a production quantity of said production facility;

said measuring means measures said present data of said production and/or utility facility after installation of an energy-saving equipment for supplying said cold or said warm heat energy thereto as said energy-saving measures, together with said production quantity; and

said calculating means retrieves said past data with which said production quantity agree within a set allowable range corresponding to said measured production quantity, and calculates the energy curtailment quantities by comparing said retrieved past data and said present data.

27. (previously presented) An energy service business system according to claim 26, wherein said calculating means retrieves a plurality of said past data corresponding to a plurality of production quantities approximating said measured production quantity; performs calculation for estimating past data corresponding to said measured production quantity from said plurality of past data; and calculates the energy curtailment quantities by comparing the thus calculated past estimated data and said present data.

28. (previously presented) An energy service business system, comprising a database which stores past data about an energy consumption of a production facility and/or a utility facility utilizing cold or warm heat energy before taking energy-saving measures;

measuring means which measures a present data of the energy-consumption of said production and/or utility facility after taking energy-saving measures; and

calculating means which calculates an energy curtailment quantities of said production and/or utility facility before and after taking the energy-saving measures;

wherein said past data in said database are stored in a form correlated with temperature and humidity of atmosphere and production quantity as a variable characteristic of the energy-consumption of said production facility and/or said utility facility;

said measuring means measures said present data of said production and/or utility facility after installation of an energy-saving equipment for supplying said cold or said warm heat energy thereto as said energy-saving measures, together with said temperature, said humidity and said production quantity; and

said calculating means retrieves said past data with which said temperature, said humidity and said production quantity agree within a set allowable range corresponding to said measured temperature, humidity and production quantity, and calculates the energy curtailment quantities by comparing said retrieved past data and said present data.

29. (previously presented) An energy service business system according to claim 28, wherein said calculating means retrieves a plurality of said past data corresponding to temperature, humidity and a production quantity approximating said measured temperature, humidity and production quantity; performs calculation for estimating past data corresponding to said measured temperature, humidity and production quantity from said plurality of past data; and calculates the energy

curtailment quantities by comparing the thus calculated past estimated data and said

present data.